

Historical Commission Minutes

January 21, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM.

The Commissioners present are in **bold**: Ann Bedrick, **Diana Cormack**, Mark Dzuban, **Kristine Gordon-Watson**, **Alison Mallamo**, **Maureen Noonan**, Gary Wills.

Guests present: Marty Raser

1. Minutes

The December 17, 2019 minutes were approved after minor corrections.

2. BoS Meeting, January 6, 2020

Maureen gave the following HC report: The Historical Commission had a meeting December 17, 2019; the minutes will be posted when approved. Work to update the Historic Resources Survey/Map continues.

Items from BoS meeting

According to the Zoning Report dated Jan. 2, 2020, a permit for "Demolition," dated Dec. 30, 2019, has been processed for "RB Ashley Customs LLC" for 3463 Conestoga Rd., HRMap#275, the historic stone barn owned by Michael Montgomery.

Diana Cormac from EAC announced a township picnic in May at Welkinweir, 1368 Prizer Rd. (HR# 79). Nancy Barclay is head of the picnic committee.

ORC will meet Tuesday, January 28, 2020. The next BoS meeting is Wednesday, February 12.

3. Info about Historic Resources

After some review, the applicant listed for the demolition permit for the Conestoga Rd. barn above was determined to be Rotelle Builders, apparently the future buyer of the property. The HC was not included or permitted to advise in the process of this demolition permit, as per ENT Ordinance Article XVI.

The HC's Maureen and Kristine, after a call to Pete Rotelle, who has his sign and equipment on the barn property, photographed and measured the existing structure, Wednesday, January 15. A report about this soon-to-be-lost historic barn and its sad fate will be compiled for the archive file.

With permission from the owner, the Hause Store (HRMap#029) was visited by historic restoration consultant Dianne Cram, and historic restoration carpenter Andy Gustine, along with three HC members and a volunteer, to assess the building's attributes and condition for subsequent stabilization steps, December 3 at 3:30 PM. We are expecting Dianne Cram will send us her write-up recording the findings of this visit as soon as she can.

The 2020 PA Historic Sites 'at risk' nomination of the Hause Store entered this past fall, through efforts of HC members Ann Bedrick, Kristine, and Maureen to Preservation Pennsylvania, was not selected for this year's list. Notice of the sites selected is due at the end of the month. However, Preservation Pennsylvania offers free technical assistance.

4. Historic Resources Map/Survey Update

A discussion on updating the Historic Resources Map which "identifies the Historic Resources of East Nantmeal Township" (from Article XVI of ENT Ordinance) was held. Alison, Maureen, and Kristine will attend a 9:30 AM meeting with Susan Elks, the County's VPP Grant Administrator, January 23, at the Chester County Government Building, Westtown Rd., to better understand the County's Vision Partnership Program (VPP) and the steps needed to be taken to pay for the professional HR Survey/Map update, part of the Ordinance Review. Hopefully RGA's Seth Hinshaw will join the meeting, as he is assisting with the completion of the grant application.

A few VPP details:

The 2020 VPP Grant manual and application form available online, Chesco's Planning Commission's site	January 8
Deadline for scheduling a Grant info session with S. Elks	February 7
Deadline for the Grant application	February 21, 4 PM

5. Correspondence

Maureen emailed the approved September, October, and November minutes to Ed Bacon for posting on the HC webpage.

Maureen alerted Bob Wise and Seth about this timeline for preparing the ENT grant application.

Bob Wise sent information about grants.

Karen Marshall sent info about a PA Historic Preservation Office webinar, Jan. 22, 2020, at noon. Topic: Keystone Historic Preservation Grants.

Ann and Maureen received letters from Preservation Pennsylvania stating that the Hause Store was not selected for the 2020 PA 'at risk' list.

6. Historical Commission Page on Township Website

Ed Bacon posts our minutes upon approval. Hopefully we will get additional info and updates to Ed soon. Alison's History Society description needs to be added.

7. New ENT Resident "Welcome Packet"

Still in consideration for such packets are maps of the Township and Nantmeal Village, information related to an Historic Resource property, such as the Chester County Historical Inventory Form from the 1979 survey from our archives, a copy of *Finding History in East Nantmeal*, and the CCHPN *Directory of Trades and Services for Historic Architecture*. Ann Bedrick will make copies of the 1883 Map. New owners include HR properties on the following roads: Nantmeal Rd. in Nantmeal Village, Potts School Rd., Templin Rd., Warwick Furnace Rd., and Prizer Road.

8. History Society

Alison confirmed that the annual dues for HS membership are \$10. An idea for a small memento presented upon membership is an environmentally-friendly, USA-made cloth or hemp tote/market bag with drawings of historic resources and our logo.

We need a price to reprint *History of East Nantmeal Township*, to include an addendum with updates to the original edition. Based on AbeBooks.com, our current prices may be low.

Historic House Plaques: The search continues for a house suitable for a C. 1740 Nantmeal Village Historic District house plaque.

9. C. Loomis Donation

Maureen will be scheduling a follow-up meeting (not on a Monday or Tuesday!) with the donor of ENT-related photos and papers, Chuck Loomis.

10. Additional Items

Former resident Pat Kaiser donated to the ENHC's library, *Religion in Wood: A Book of Shaker Furniture*.

HC supporter JoAnn Domanski is taking our copy of nonagenarian Kimberton farmer Clyde Scheib's recently released *Seven Stars and Beyond, Preserving Local History* to an East Vincent HC meeting for Clyde to sign.

A memorial service was held at Harmonyville Church of the Brethren, Saturday, January 18, for life-long Warwick Township resident, local historic expert, and long-time Warwick Township supervisor Charles H. Jacob. A skilled cabinetmaker by trade, Charles was involved with northern Chester County and its heritage for over 40 years. Charles' contributions to historic preservation and land preservation in Warwick Township and its surrounds cannot be overstated.

Kristine, Alison, Peggy Hartzel, and Maureen enjoyed attending the French and Pickering Creeks Trust's Third Thursday Talk at Historic Yellow Springs (HYS), January 16. The panel's topic was local for us--"Great Marsh from the Ice Age to the Present." ENT's Lori Moore, Program Director of Great Marsh Institute (GMI), moderated, and Jim Moore, Chairman of GMI, presented in part to the packed event room in the Washington Building. The next Third Thursday Talk will be in February, again at HYS.(See the Trust's website for more info: frenchandpickering.org/events.)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.***

***Following this meeting's adjournment, Maureen, Marty, Diana and Kristine drove to Wagontown for a 7:00 PM event, as suggested by Kristine. The West Caln Historical Society presented Herb Fisher, historian and photo collector, speaking on "Stagecoach Trolley Through Lancaster and Chester Counties."

**The next HC meeting will be Tuesday, February 18, 2020, at 7:00 PM.
Kristine Gordon-Watson,
Maureen Noonan, Chairperson**